

## August

### **Conundrum of Common Names**

**Saturday, August 13, 10-11am**

Learn about the trouble with using common names for plants instead of their Latin name. Join Erin Garrett with U of I Extension and explore some commonly used names that refer to multiple species and dive into the use of the word "weed."

**Registration is required.**

### **Art in the Park**

**Saturday, August 20, 1-3pm**

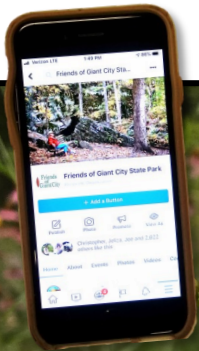
What better setting than outdoors at Giant City State Park to get creative and learn how to watercolor paint! Join local artist, Anne Krippenstapel, for a leisurely afternoon of creating art inspired by nature. This is a free program and all supplies will be provided. **Registration is required.**

**New programs are added  
throughout the year!**

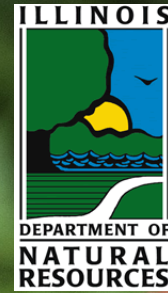
**For an updated list, visit the Friends of Giant  
City Facebook site.**



[www.facebook.com/friendsofgiantcity](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofgiantcity)



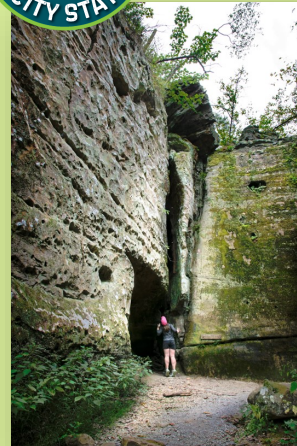
<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/Parks/Pages/GiantCity.aspx>



# Giant City State Park



## May-August 2022 Programs



**Giant City State Park**

235 Giant City Road

Makanda, IL 62958

618-457-4836

## May

### **Caterpillar Identification and Collection**

**Saturday, May 7, 10-Noon**

Caterpillars are all around us-and establishing a healthy ecosystem for them is vital if we want to support local populations of butterflies and moths. Join Erin Garrett with U of I Extension to learn identification characteristics for common caterpillars, explore the best host plants for them, and see how you can contribute to caterpillar citizen science. Then, build your own caterpillar collection device and join us on a short hike to practice collecting and identifying caterpillars. **Registration is required.**

### **Friends of Giant City Annual Meeting**

**Sunday, May 15th, 1-3pm**

Would you like to learn more about the Friends of Giant City? If so, why not join us for the annual meeting. Meet Friends members and enjoy refreshments and a special guest presenter. Anyone interested in learning more about the Friends group or the park is encouraged to attend.

**Registration is required.**

### **Art in the Park**

**Saturday, May 28, 1-3pm**

What better setting than outdoors at Giant City State Park to get creative and learn how to watercolor paint! Join local artist, Anne Krippenstapel, for a leisurely afternoon of creating art inspired by nature. This is a free program and all supplies will be provided. **Registration is required.**

## June

### **Which Grass is Which?**

**Thursday, June 2, 10am-Noon**

While identifying grasses can be tricky, it doesn't always have to be. Learn the basics of grass identification and how to identify common grasses on your next hike, without learning complex terminology or needing a hand lens. **Registration is required.**

### **Caminata Guiada en Español e Inglés**

#### **Guided Hike in Spanish and English**

**Saturday, June 4th, 10-11:30am**

Do you speak Spanish and like to hike? If so, this guided trail walk is for you! Do you like to hike but do not speak Spanish? This hike is also for you! Join the Park Naturalist and Lisa Thomas, local volunteer, as we take a casual hike along the moderate 1 mile Giant City Nature Trail. We will highlight a little of the flora, fauna, geology and history of Giant City State Park. **Registration begins on May 1st.**

¿Habras español y te gusta pasear por la naturaleza? Si contestas "sí", ¡esta caminata guiada es para ti! ¿Te gusta pasear por la naturaleza, pero no hablas español? Pues, ¡esta caminata es para ti también! Acompáñanos a la naturalista del parque y Lisa Thomas (voluntaria local) mientras damos un paseo moderado y casual de una milla por el sendero natural "Giant City". Destacaremos un poco de la flora, fauna, geología e historia del parque estatal Giant City. Se puede inscribir a partir del sábado, 1 de mayo.

## June cont.

### **National Get Outdoors Day Event**

**Saturday, June 11, 1-4pm**

Southern Illinois is a playground for the outdoor enthusiast. Hiking, biking, camping, birdwatching, mushroom foraging, climbing, kayaking.....we've got it all! On June 12th from 1-4pm, join local nature enthusiasts and professionals to discover cool outdoor opportunities in your backyard! **No registration required.** Please call the Giant City Visitors Center for more information, 618-457-4836

### **Mammoth Days and Mastodon Nights**

**Saturday, June 25, 10am-Noon**

The Ice Age breathed down Giant City State Park's neck and its hills lived to tell about it! Take a portal back to the Pleistocene era through hands on "mammoth tracking" activities (ancestral skills: atlatl, bull roarers, throwing sticks and more). Take a glimpse of southern Illinois' 13,000 year old chilly past with local Interpreter, Steve Garipey. **Registration is required.**

## July

### **Sunup Hikes**

**July 8 and 22, 6:30am**

It's summer in southern Illinois and even though it's hot and humid, that's no reason to stop hiking! Roll out of bed and join the Park Naturalist as we get some exercise and take in the early morning woods on one of the 8 park trails. Trails will vary from 1-3 miles and will be moderately difficult with some steep stair climbing. **Registration is required.**

### **Cooking Wild Mushrooms in Summer**

**Sunday, July 10, 1-3pm**

Be sure to save room for mushrooms! Join Naturalist and wild food enthusiast Alex Holmes for an introduction to edible summer mushrooms and how to prepare them. **Registration is required.**

### **Rare Plants and Common Lookalikes**

**Sunday, July 24, 2-3pm**

There are over 400 species of rare plants known from Illinois, but many of them look similar to more common species. This presentation will discuss the identification of rare plants and explain how to differentiate them from their related counterparts. **Registration is required.**

